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RURAL DISTRICT OF ELHAM

KENT

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1965





OFFICERS AND STAFF

Clerk to the Authority      ..    ..    ..    ..    John Bewdon, A.C.C.S.

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health    ..    ..    ..    ..    C. F. Lynch, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,  
D.P.H

Deputy Medical Officer of Health      ..    ..    J. A. Byrne, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,  
D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.

Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector      R. Finn, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert.  
Meat & Other Foods Inspector.

Assistant Surveyor & Additional Public  
Health Inspector    ..    ..    ..    ..    E. W. Rathmell, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.  
Meat & Other Foods Inspector.


Building Inspector      ..    ..    ..    ..    ..    K. H. C. Maggs

General Foreman    ..    ..    ..    ..    ..    M. Brisley

Clerk & Typist      ..    ..    ..    ..    ..    Miss A. Godden (To 30.7.65)  
Miss J. Boorman (From 26.7.65)

Rodent Operator    ..    ..    ..    ..    ..    E. C. Pidduck

Refuse Collection, Cesspool Emptying  
and Sewer Gang      ..    ..    ..    ..    4 Drivers  
5 Loaders  
3 Assistants



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## STATISTICS

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To: The Chairman and Members of the Elham Rural District Council:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Rural District for the year 1965.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population was 10,860, an increase of 550 on the figure for the previous year.

The Birth Rate adjusted for comparative purposes was 19.9 per 1,000 of the population and shows an increase of 2.2 compared with the rate for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 18.0.

The Death Rate after adjustment was 7.5 per 1,000 of the population compared with 8.2 in 1964 and 11.5 for England and Wales.

Some 83% of the deaths occurred over the age of 65, while less than 1% occurred before the age of 5 years.

Deaths from cancer including lung cancer were increased giving a rate per 1,000 of the population slightly in excess of the rate for the country as a whole.

The Infant Mortality Rate was exceptionally low at 6 per 1,000 live: births compared with 19.5 for the previous year and 19.0 for England and Wales as a whole. There were no maternal deaths during the year.

With regard to infectious disease Measles, as was expected, became prevalent during the year, most of the cases again occurring among children attending school. No doubt the use of measles vaccine where indicated and not available will reduce the number of cases occurring in future measles years.

Three primary notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis were received during the year though the diagnosis in one case was not confirmed and was subsequently corrected.

Close supervision of sanitary conditions in the District continued throughout the year, details of the work being included in the Report of the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector. I would however refer especially to an item in the Report concerning refuse collection and disposal and his recommendation regarding a weekly collection. The sooner this can be undertaken the better for the prevention of nuisance and to remove what can be justifiable cause for complaint in the circumstances to which he refers.

I have to thank the Council for their interest and support in the Department's work and I am indebted to members of the Staff generally for their co-operation throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,  
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) C. F. Lynch

Medical Officer of Health

Health Department,  
Brook House,  
Dover,

12th August, 1966.







## SECTION A

### Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year:

1. Births: (Figures as supplied by Registrar General)

(a) Registered Live Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	72	81	153
Illegitimate	8	7	15
	<u>80</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>168</u>

Comparability Factor 1.29

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population:-

Crude	15.47
Adjusted for comparative purposes	19.96
Legitimate	18.18
Illegitimate	1.78

(b) Stillbirths:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths) 5.91

2. Deaths: The figures relating to deaths used in the tables in this Report are those compiled locally adjusted for inward and outward transfers; the number of deaths registered during 1965 totalled 314, outward transfers 147 and inward transfers 73 giving a net allocation to Elham of 240 deaths, a deficit of one male death and a surplus of one female death on the figures supplied by the Registrar General. The classification of these deaths is obtained from the information submitted by the local Registrar in his weekly return.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Registered	111	129	240

Comparability Factor 0.34

Death Rate per 1,000 estimate population:-

Crude	22.1
Adjusted for comparative purposes	7.51

3. Infant Mortality:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 6

4. Causes of Death and Age Groups in 1965:

Cause of Death:	Male:	Female:	Total:
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	7	3	10
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	11	20
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1	3
Diabetes	-	3	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	26	30	56
Coronary Disease, Angina	17	12	29
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	3	4
Other Heart Disease	11	20	31
Other Circulatory Disease	8	9	17
Pneumonia	3	8	11
Bronchitis	4	3	7
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	1	3
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	-	4
Congenital Malformations	1	-	1
Other defined and Ill-defined diseases	7	14	21
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	3	5	8
TOTALS	111	129	240

Age Groups in which Deaths occurred:

Age Groups:	Male:	Female:	Total:
Under 1 year	1	-	1
1 year	-	-	-
2-4 years	1	-	1
5-14 years	1	-	1
15-24 years	2	1	3
25-44 years	-	5	5
45-64 years	14	16	30
65-74 years	30	23	53
75 years and over	62	84	146
TOTAL	111	129	240

5. Specially Recorded Deaths:

Cancer (all ages) - 36

Rate per 1,000 estimated population:

	Elham Rural District	England & Wales
(1) Lung and Bronchus	0.92	0.553
(2) Other sites	2.39	1.674

Age Groups in which Deaths from Cancer occurred:

Cancer of	25-44		45-64		65-74		75 & over		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Stomach	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	1
Lung, Bronchus	-	-	2	-	4	3	1	-	7	3
Breast	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Other sites	-	-	1	5	6	3	2	3	9	11
TOTALS	-	1	3	5	11	7	4	5	18	18

6. Comparative Rates:

Elham Rural District      England & Wales  
1964      1965      1965

(per 1,000 Home Population)

<u>BIRTHS</u>		Live Births		
	Crude	14.94	15.47	18.0
	Adjusted	17.03	19.96	-
	Stillbirths	0.291	0.092	0.289
<u>DEATHS</u>				
	Crude	16.20	22.1	11.5
	Adjusted	8.26	7.51	-

INFANT MORTALITY: (Death per 1,000 Live Births)

All causes under 1 year of age      19.5      6      19

MATERNAL MORTALITY: (Per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births)

All causes      -      -      0.25



## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

#### (a) Hospitals

St. Mary's Hospital, Etchinghill, situated within the Rural District, provides accommodation for the aged and infirm and chronic sick and is administered by the South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

Appropriate facilities for the treatment of acute cases, maternity cases and infectious diseases are provided by the Board's Hospitals elsewhere in the region.

#### (b) Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service undertakes the examination of pathological and other specimens as well as the routine bacteriological examination of water, milk and other samples.

#### (c) Nursing and Midwifery Service

These domiciliary services are provided by the Kent County Council which is the administrative authority for them in the Rural area. The following information on the work of the services during 1965 has been provided by the County Medical Officer.

(1)	Number of Home Nurses working in District .. ..	7
	Number of Patients attended .. ..	276
	Number of attendances including casual visits	7,394
(2)	Number of Midwives working in District.. ..	6
	Number of births attended .. ..	43

#### (d) Clinics and Welfare Centres

The County Council as the Local Health Authority and Education Authority provides various specialist and consultant services for expectant and nursing mothers, infants, toddlers and children of school age. The Regional Hospital Board also provides clinics serving the Rural area, including those for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and venereal disease.

#### (e) Ambulance Service

This service is administered and operated by the Kent County Council with ambulance stations in the neighbouring towns.

## SECTION C

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) Notified during 1965 by Age Groups (corrected).

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery
Under 5 years	2	5	46	-
5 - 14 years	3	3	104	1
15 - 24 years	-	1	2	-
25 - 44 years	-	-	1	-
45 - 64 years	-	-	1	-
65 and over	-	1	-	-
Age Unknown	-	-	7	-
Total	5	10	161	1
Admitted to Hospital	-	-	-	-
Notification Rates : per 1,000 Home Population Elham Rural District	0.46	0.92	14.825	0.09
England & Wales	0.56	0.27	10.676	0.548

2. Food Poisoning:

No confirmed case of food poisoning occurred in the District.

3. Immunisation and Vaccination:

The Schemes for Whooping Cough and Diptheria immunisation and Smallpox and Poliomyelitis Vaccination were continued under the administration of the Kent County Council and the following statistics for 1965 are made available by the courtesy of the County Medical Officer:-

(a) Whooping Cough Immunisation:

112 children received primary whooping cough immunisation.

(b) Diptheria Immunisation:

Number of children resident in the District who received:-

- |     |                                |     |
|-----|--------------------------------|-----|
| (a) | Primary inoculations .. ..     | 112 |
| (b) | Reinforcing inoculations .. .. | 148 |

(c) Smallpox Vaccination:

In view of the amendment to the County Council's proposals under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, regarding records of vaccination against smallpox, the following is the sole information now available on this matter:-

Primary Vaccination

1 year

71

Re-Vaccination

School age but under 8 years

-

(d) Polio-myelitis Vaccination:

Number of vaccinations given in 1965 (based on returns submitted to Ministry of Health).

Year of Birth	3rd & 4th Dose (Salk & Oral)	3 Orals Complete Course
1965	-	19
1964	1	80
1963	-	4
1962	-	3
1958 - 1961	56	5
1949 - 1957	12	1
TOTALS	69	112

4. Tuberculosis:

New cases of tuberculosis notified during 1965 were as follows:-

<u>Pulmonary:</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary:</u>	
Male:	Female:	Male:	Female:
-	*3	-	-
1964 -	1	1	1

Age Grouping of the new cases notified:-

25 - 44 years	-	*2	-	-
45 - 64 years	-	1	-	-

\*One case not confirmed.

The following "Annual Statement of Tuberculosis" is compiled from the four Quarterly Returns to the County Medical Officer:-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	Male:	Female:	Male:	Female:
(a) Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register as at 1st Jan. 1965.	40	25	2	4
(b) Number of cases notified under Regulations of 1952 for the first time during the year	-	3	-	-
(c) Otherwise added to Register	-	-	-	1
(d) Cases removed from Register during year, including recoveries or deaths (excluding deaths of unnotified cases)	2	1	-	-
(e) Number of cases on Register at end of 1965	38	27	2	5



There were no deaths of un-notified cases of tuberculosis during the year.

Of the 3 patients whose names were removed from the Register during the year, 1 was regarded as recovered, 1 removed from the District and in the case of the third the diagnosis was not confirmed.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, (regarding tuberculous persons employed in the milk trade) or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, (regarding the compulsory removal of tuberculous patients to hospital).

5. Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1952; Aliens Order, 1953; Commonwealth Immigrants Act, 1962:

Lympne Airport:

2,658 Commonwealth citizens subject to control under the Commonwealth Immigrants Act, 1962, and 22,097 aliens arrived at the Airport during the year; one Commonwealth citizen was medically examined.

Work to provide a new medical room at the Airport, plans for which were referred to in the 1964 Report, was held up for most of the year owing to a shortage of bricks. Consequently little progress was made by the end of the year towards providing the improved facilities required.





ANNUAL REPORT, 1965

Report of the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

Section D

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

1. Water Supply

The quality and quantity of the water supplied by the two Statutory Water Undertakings was satisfactory throughout the year.

No water main extensions were carried out.

Examination of samples taken during the year

	Bacteriological Examination		
	No. of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Statutory Supply Undertakings	7	7	-
Private sources piped to dwellings	8	5	3
Other private sources	6	3	3
TOTALS	21	15	6

97.7% of the total number of dwelling houses in the district had piped supplies of water.

Total No. of premises not connected to the public water supply 86.

Water Supply (Cont'd)

No. of houses with piped supply

Parish	Estimated Population	No. of houses	Direct to house
Acrise	166	57	52
Elham	1,272	496	476
Elmsted	298	97	97
Hawkinge	1,548	455	448
Lyminge	2,085	650	629
Lympne	834	313	301
Monks Horton	104	45	45
Newington	347	134	129
Paddlesworth	32	12	12
Postling	164	65	64
Saltwood	871	328	326
Sellindge	968	382	364
Stanford	535	166	152
Stelling	243	88	84
Stelling Minnis	222	85	80
Stowting	161	68	62
Swingfield	1,010	385	350
TOTAL	10,860	3,826	3,671

Average number of persons per dwelling 2.83.

2. Public Swimming Baths

There are no public swimming baths in the District.

3. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Total No. of premises connected to public sewers 1,865

Total No. of premises connected to cesspools or  
septic tanks (estimated) 1,961

(a) Sellindge, Stanford and Lympne  
Joint Scheme with East Ashford R.D.C.

Stage I Progress on the construction of the sewage treatment works at Sellindge to serve the Parishes of Sellindge, Stanford and Lympne within the District and Brabourne and Smeeth within East Ashford R.D. has proceeded satisfactorily. Difficulty was experienced by Seaboard in obtaining wayleaves for the overhead electricity supply lines to the works.

It is anticipated that the works will be completed according to schedule.

Stage II The Tender of Messrs. C. Jenner & Son Ltd. in the sum of £357,883 was accepted by the Council. Construction of the sewers, rising mains and pumping stations to serve the Parishes of Sellindge, Stanford and Lympne was started in June and good progress was made during the year.

(b) Cesspool Emptying

Cesspools were emptied by direct labour with two 750 gallon emptiers and by hiring two vehicles from Messrs. Purbridge Ltd.

There have been delays of up to 4 weeks in emptying cesspools due to the heavy demands made on this service in the Swan Lane area. On the Leafield Estate in particular, due to the waterlogged condition of the ground, cesspools fill very quickly and need to be emptied very frequently.

No separate charge is levied for this service.

The Council have placed an order for the supply of one 1,200 gallon emptier which should give a more efficient service than that provided by the 750 gallon emptier which is now 20 years old.

4. General

	No. in district	No. of visits	No. of defects found	No. remedied
Bakehouses	4	4	Nil	Nil
Dairies (retail)	3	7	Nil	Nil
Ice-Cream premises	51	29	Nil	Nil
Slaughterhouses	3	342	1	1
Other places where food is prepared	101	146	15	15
Offensive trades	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Factories Power	27	23	Nil	Nil
Non-Power	4	6	Nil	Nil

Factories Act, 1961

Inspections for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	6	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	27	23	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities. (excluding out-workers)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	31	29	Nil	Nil



#### 4. General (Cont'd)

No defects were found.

##### Summary of Visits

Food premises, shops and slaughterhouses	.. ..	590
Factories	.. ..	29
Sanitary defects, housing and improvement grants	..	308
Petroleum Storage	.. ..	93
Sampling and water supplies	.. ..	21
Building operations and drainage	.. ..	3,130
Council house maintenance	.. ..	480
Town and Country Planning	.. ..	618
Miscellaneous	.. ..	420

Total no. of inspections of all kinds during the year 5,639

The establishment of the department was increased during the year by a Building Inspector and this has released the Additional Public Health Inspector from building inspections and the supervision of Council House maintenance.

#### 5. Control of Infestations

##### Rodent Control

One full time rodent operator was employed. A survey of agricultural premises was carried out.

No. of premises inspected:	Dwelling houses	344
	Agricultural	231
	Business premises	32
	Local Authority	2

No. of premises treated:	Minor infestations	321
	Major infestations	8
	Mice	31

##### Vermin and Insects

No infestations of bed bugs came to light but one bad flea infestation was treated. There were very few wasp infestations.

#### 6. Refuse Collection and Disposal

Fortnightly kerbside collection of dustbins was undertaken by direct labour using one Bedford 7 cu. yd. side loader and one Austin 12/20 cu. yd. rear loader. Some overtime was worked during the year and difficulties arose during Public Holiday periods.

The two existing vehicles were worked to capacity and with the increase in the number of new properties in the District it will soon be necessary to dispose of the Bedford vehicle, which is now 10 years old and purchase a second large vehicle.

As reported last year an ever increasing number of requests was received from aged and infirm persons to have the refuse collected from the rear of their premises. A lot of ratepayers found that it was difficult to store refuse over a fortnight and it may be necessary in the near future to provide a weekly collection. The trend is for new properties to have very small gardens and only one open fireplace and it is often difficult to dispose of surplus refuse by incineration.

Only the one refuse tip at Blind House Lane, Stanford was in use, but planning permission was obtained to fill the disused quarry at Berwick Lane, Lympe. The conditions imposed with this permission are very stringent and it will prove to be very expensive to comply with them.

### Salvage

48 tons 10 cwt. of mixed unbaled wastepaper and 8 tons 19 cwt. of scrapmetal and rags were salvaged and sold during the year. The total revenue from salvaged materials was £364. 4s. 0d. an increase of £156. 17s. 0d. over last year.

## SECTION E

### FOOD

#### 1. Milk

No. of registered distributors	26
No. of registered dairies	3

#### 2. Ice Cream

No ice cream or iced lollies were manufactured in the District. 53 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream.

#### 3. Meat and Other Foods

Three private slaughterhouse licences were in force, but one of these expired during the year and was not renewed.

Carcases Inspected and Conderned

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	637	53	142	4,091	4,309	-
Number inspected	637	53	142	4,091	4,309	-
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcase conderned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was conderned	47	14	5	296	476	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	7.37	26.41	3.52	7.23	11.04	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses conderned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was conderned	-	-	-	-	20	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.46	-
No cases of cysticerci were found						

The following foodstuffs were surrendered and conderned as unfit for human consumption:

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Home Killed Beef	1	1	3	14
Home Killed Pork		17	0	7
Home Killed Mutton		12	0	18
Miscellaneous				24
	2	11	1	7

Slaughtering by a wholesale butcher at Swingfield Slaughterhouse has meant working after normal office hours on the following days:-

Sundays	34
Mondays	42
Tuesdays	22
Wednesdays	-
Thursdays	-
Fridays	-
Saturdays	<u>14</u>
Total	112 days

Overtime payments were not made for this work.

A total of 281 hours were spent on meat inspection, of which 161 hours were outside normal office hours, including all Bank Holidays except Christmas Day.



## SECTION F

### Housing

1. No. of Informal Notices served and complied with .. .. 16  
(Housing and Public Health Acts)

No. of houses demolished . . . . . 3

No. of Statutory Notices served .. .. 2

2. Improvement Grants

(a) Discretionary

No. of applications approved .. .. 7

No. of dwellings involved .. .. 8

No. of applications refused .. .. Nil

Total amount of grants approved .. £1,873

(b) Standard

No. of applications approved ... .. 14

No. of dwellings involved .. .. 14

Total amount of grants paid .. .. £1,883

3. Building Operations

During the year 319 applications were considered under the Town and Country Planning Acts and 477 applications of all kinds were received.

4. Council Houses

No houses were built during the year.

301 dwellings in the District were owned by the local authority. This was 7.86% of the total number of dwellings in the District.

5. Privately Built Houses

82 private dwellings were erected during the year and 114 were in course of erection at the end of the year.

1,045 post war private houses have been erected up to the 31st December.

27.31% of all houses in the District are post war.

## SECTION G

1. Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts, 1928-36 and Regulations

All petroluem storage installations in the District were inspected with a Fire Prevention Officer of the Kent Fire Brigade.

44 licences were in force during the year.

2. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Registrations and General Inspections

	No. of Premises registered during year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises inspected
Offices	5	32	27
Retail Shops	10	52	53
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	1	1
Catering establishments	7	17	14
Fuel storage depots	-	1	-
TOTALS	22	103	95

*R. A. King*

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector

Council Offices,  
Lyminge,  
Folkestone.

